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*B. Harwood
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BEYOND THESE VOICES THERE IS PEACE

MOTET

FOR

SOPRANO AND BASS SOLI, CHORUS AND ORCHESTRA

BY

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INTRODUCTION.

CHORUS.

What profit hath man of all his labour wherein he laboureth under the sun?

One generation goeth, and another generation cometh; and the earth abideth for ever.

The sun also riseth, the sun goeth down, and hasteth to his place where he ariseth.

The wind goeth toward the south, and turneth about unto the north; it turneth about continually, and the wind returneth again to its circuits.

All the rivers run into the sea, yet the sea is not full; unto the place from whence the rivers come, thither they return again.

All things are full of weariness; the eye is not satisfied with seeing, nor the ear filled with hearing.

That which hath been is that which shall be, and that which hath been done is that which shall be done; and there is no new thing under the sun.

BASS SOLO.

I said in mine heart, Go to now, I will prove thee with mirth; I said of laughter: It is mad, and of mirth, what doeth it?

I sought in mine heart how I might cheer my flesh with wine, mine heart yet guiding me with wisdom, and how to lay hold on folly, till I might see what it was good for the sons of men that they should do under heaven all the days of their life.

I made me great works; I builded me houses; I planted me vineyards; I made me gardens and orchards; I made me pools of water, to water therefrom the wood that bringeth forth trees:

I got me servants and maidens, I gathered me silver and gold. And whatsoever mine eyes desired I kept not from them: I withheld not my heart from any joy.

Then I looked on all the works my hands had wrought, and on the labours that I had laboured to do: And, behold, all was vanity, vanity and vexation of spirit, and there was no profit under the sun.

CHORUS.

To everything there is a season, a time to every purpose under heaven:

A time to be born, a time to die:

A time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted;

A time to kill, and a time to heal;

A time to weep, a time to laugh, a time to mourn, and a time to dance;

A time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;

A time to seek, and a time to lose;

A time to rend, and a time to sew;

A time to keep silence, and a time to speak;

A time to love, and a time to hate;

A time for war, a time for peace.

Whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ever.

God hath done it that men should fear before Him.

That which is hath been already; that which is to be hath already been; God seeketh again that which is passed away.

BASS SOLO.

Truly the light is sweet, and a pleasant thing it is to behold the sun.

Yea, if a man live many years, let him rejoice in them all;

Let him remember the days of darkness, for they shall be many.

Therefore remove sorrow from thy heart, and put away evil from thy flesh: Or ever the sun, and the light, and the moon, and the stars be darkened,

In that day when the keepers of the house shall tremble, and the strong men shall bow themselves, and the doors be shut in the street;

They shall be afraid of that which is from on high, and terrors shall be in the way;

Because man goeth to his long home, and the mourners go about the streets;

Or ever the pitcher be broken at the fountain, or the wheel be broken at the cistern.

The dust shall return to earth as it was, and the spirit to God Who gave it.

SOPRANO SOLO.

Ho! every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters.

Come ye, buy and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk, without money and without price.

Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread? and your labour for that which satisfieth not?

Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return unto the Lord, and He will abundantly pardon.

And ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace;

The mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

Instead of the thorn shall come up the fir tree; instead of the briar shall come up the myrtle tree:

It shall be for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

CHORUS.

Who hath measured the waters in the hollow of His hand, and meted out the heavens with the span, and comprehended the dust of the earth in a measure, and weighed the mountains in scales, and the hills in a balance?

Who hath directed the Spirit of the Lord; or, being His counsellor, hath taught Him?

With whom took He counsel, and who instructed Him, and taught Him in the path of judgment, and showed Him the way of understanding?

All the nations are as nothing before Him. They are counted to Him as less than nothing! and vanity.

To whom will ye liken God? or what likeness will ye compare unto Him?

Have ye not known? Have ye not heard? Hath it not been told you from the beginning? Have ye not understood from the foundations of the earth?

It is He that sitteth upon the circle of the earth; that stretcheth out the heavens as a curtain, and spreadeth them out as a tent to dwell in:

Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard? the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth fainteth not, neither is weary, there is no searching of His understanding.

SOPRANO SOLO AND CHORUS (*continued*).

He giveth power to the faint; and to him that hath no might He increaseth strength.

Even the youths shall be faint and weary,

But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

THE CLUE.

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on Thee.